CHRISTIAN UNITY Newsletter

VOL. III FEBRUARY, 1958 No. 4

DISCIPLES 1958-59 EMPHASIS: HISTORY, LITERATURE, UNITY

Christian unity is to be a major emphasis of Disciples in the year 1958-59. Under the theme "Responsible Disciples—Mission Begun," the Brotherhood will lift up three major concerns in its program planning: Christian literature, Disciples' history, and Christian Unity. This "Year of Emphasis" will be sponsored jointly by the Christian Board of Publication, the Disciples of Christ Historical Society, and the Council on Christian Unity.

Sunday, September 21st has been designated as "launching Sunday" for this year's emphasis. A brief service of worship and commitment, challenging every Disciple to be a "responsible disciple"—to read, to remember, to unite—will be available for local church services.

In addition to this launching service, special services and programs are suggested for the following dates:

Oct. 5—World Communion Sunday.
Oct. 19—World Order Sunday.
Oct. 26—Reformation Sunday.
Jan. 4-10—Universal Week of Prayer. (Sponsored by U. S. and Canadian Councils of Churches).
Jan. 18-25—Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. (Sponsored by World Council).
Jan. 25-Feb. 1—Youth Week.
Feb. 8—Race Relations Sunday.
Feb. 15-22—Brotherhood Week.
Feb. 15-22—Week of Compassion.
May 17—Pentecost, Christian Unity Sunday.

Many churches will want to plan united services with other communions on some of these special occasions, or at such times as Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The Council on Christian Unity, together with the agencies of the other two emphasis concerns, has prepared a "Year of Emphasis" *Manual* which includes many program planning suggestions, unity materials, and lists of resources. The *Manual* will be available by Easter. Complimentary copies will be sent to ministers and World Outreach Committee chairmen and to Sunday school superintendents upon request. Additional copies will presumably be available at cost from the Christian Board of Publication.

Suggestions for local programming include the exchange of preachers with other denominations; exchange visits of church officers, church school classes and youth groups with other churches; and the sharing of the traditions, beliefs and customs of other communions through speakers, mixed study groups, films, joint worship services, and joint service projects. The *Manual* includes suggestions for the total church program and also for the individual programs of the men's, women's, and youth fellowships within the church.

Other unity materials which are being prepared for the Year of Emphasis, and the places from which they may be ordered are:

Available: Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis, Mo.:

Minister's Handbook On Christian Unity, ca. 120 pp.; paper bound $1.00, cloth $2.00.

Preaching on Christian Unity, ed. Robert Tobias, ca. 120 pp., $2.00.

Unity Packet (single copies of flyers, brochures, and other basic documents for ecumenical orientation and study), ca. $.50.

Available: Religious Film Library, 222 South Downey Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.:

Christian Unity—Mission Begun, A Progress Report, sound film strip, 23 min.; sale $10.00, rental $2.50.

Available: Council on Christian Unity, 222 South Downey Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.:

Ecumenical Studies Guide, for local church studies, ca. 75 pp., paper bound $.50.

Disciples at Work in Unity, illustrated leaflet, $5.00 per 100 copies.

Disciples and Christian Unity, describes structure and work of the Council on Christian Unity, $3.50 per 100 copies, single copy free.

Ecumenical Book Shelf, a list of publications, single copy free.

Ecumenical Studies Series (quarterly), and *Christian Unity Newsletter* (quarterly), $3.00 annually (includes Council membership).

Our Relations Abroad, a series of survey reports, area by area; Council on Christian Unity, ca. 35c.

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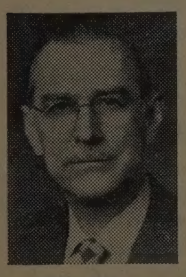
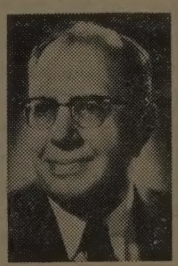
SIKES AND COOK TO REPRESENT DISCIPLES

Dr. Walter Sikes, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics at the School of Religion, Butler University, and Dr. Gaines M. Cook, Executive Secretary of the International Convention of Disciples of Christ and Chairman of the Disciples Committee on Relations, Representation and Support of National and World Councils, have been appointed Fraternal Observers from the Disciples of Christ to sit on two important commissions of the new United Church of Christ. Dr. Sikes will sit on the Commission to Draft A Constitution, and Dr. Cook will sit on the Commission to Prepare A Statement of Faith.



Dr. Sikes

Serving with Sikes and Cook as alternate observers to the United Church's Commissions will be Rev. Mr. W. J. Jarman, President of the Council on Christian Unity and Pastor of the Uni-



Dr. Cook

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IMC TO MERGE WITH WORLD COUNCIL

The International Missionary Council has voted to endorse in principle the plan for integration with its sister organization, the World Council of Churches. This decision was made by a 58 to 7 vote at the Council's guadrennial Assembly which met in the new Africian nation of Ghana, formerly the Gold Coast, December 28-January 8.

The draft plan of integration endorsed by the Central Committee of the World Council in the summer of 1957 calls for creation of a Commission on World Mission and Evangelism and a Division on World Mission and Evangelism similar to other divisions of the World Council.

Under the proposal outlined in the draft plan the head of the new Division on World Mission and Evangelism, which would carry on the responsibilities undertaken by the IMC, would be an associate secretary of the WCC.

The two organizations have worked "in association" with each other for a decade and have jointly sponsored a Commission of the Churches on International Affairs and an East Asia Secretariat. The WCC was formed in 1948, but the IMC has existed since 1921. Its origins are in the famous Edinburgh Conference on the World mission of the Church held in 1910.

The plan for integration is in response to demands that the mission of the Church and the unity of the Church should not be separated. Proponents have argued that the World Council of Churches cannot accomplish its goals for Church unity without a closer identification with mission and evangelism.

Opposition to the plan has come from several sources. It was feared that certain evangelical groups now cooperating with the IMC but not members of the WCC would be lost. Large missionary agencies which are conducted independently from the organization of the church feared loss of missionary initiative if merger takes place. Dangers of bureaucracy and bigness were also mentioned.

Orthodox churches in the World Council of Churches expressed fears when the plan was presented at the WCC Central Committee in New Haven that they would be involved in proselytizing activities of which they do not approve. Metropolitan James of Melita told the Ghana assembly that Orthodox churches will support the plan if the constitution of the WCC is not changed.

Dr. John Mackay, retiring chairman of the IMC, in the opening plenary session on the integration question said the source of the plan was "the recovered sense of the Church" and the growth of common interests and fields of the two world bodies.

Dr. Franklin C. Fry, speaking for the WCC, said penalties of postponement of integration included "continued separation of things that belong together" and overlapping responsibilities eventually leading to tensions between the two bodies.

Dr. Virgil A. Sly, Chairman of the World Mission Division of the United Christian Missionary Society, regards the contemplated merger of major importance because "it brings into the structure of the World Council the missionary motive and thrust of the IMC. The World Council of Churches, to thoroughly represent the whole interest of the church must necessarily represent its mission," asserts Dr. Sly.

In the assembly's final vote the Christian Councils of Norway, Sweden, the Congo, and Belgium voted as units against the plan. There are 38 member units of the IMC (national Christian councils and missionary agencies) with voting representation ranging from one to eleven. Individual opposition came from some delegates from Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

EMPHASIS

(*Continued from Page* 1)

It is expceted that during the year two other books on unity will be available: a review of the Disciples' "plea" by Walter Sikes, and a book of facts on Christian unity, the report of a joint study by the Council on Christian Unity and the National Council of Churches.

Also, the Year of Emphasis Committee is working with Unified Promotion in an attempt to make available some staff personnel for use by state planning committees when planning this year's emphasis program.

Dr. Cavert Gives Views on Christian Unity

Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, Executive secretary of the New York office of the World Council of Churches since 1954, retired on December 31, 1957. Before coming to the World Council of Churches, Dr. Cavert had served for 35 years with the National Council of Churches and its predecessor organization, the Federal Council of Churches. He had been general secretary of the National Council of Churches.

Dr. Roswell P. Barnes, former associate general secretary of the National Council of Churches, succeeds Dr. Cavert as head of the New York office of the World Council.

On December 10 at the annual meeting of the Friends of the W.C.C., Dr. Cavert spoke on "The Ecumenical Movement—Retrospect and Prospect."

Asserting that he advocated neither organic union of all denominations nor simply "more cooperation of the same kind we see today," Dr. Cavert called for emphasis on "unity rather than union."

"On the one hand, we need a unity which involves enough of a common faith and common order so that we can have a ministry and sacraments that are recognized throughout the whole Church," he said. "On the other hand, we must never cease to safeguard the values of freedom and diversity."

"The unhappy fact is that we are not spiritually ready for organizational union—except within the several confessional families," he said.

"The ecumenical interest and the local interest are competing with each other," he asserted.

"Perhaps we have reached the point in the cooperative movement where it is not likely to go further unless it goes deeper," he said. "As things now stand we act separately as denominations in most things, and act together in only those few things in which we can hardly act alone. We need to reverse the process." (E.P.S.)

Switzerland

University of Bale

a) under 35; bachelor's degree
b) 3000 Swiss. fr., plus tuition
c) 1 academic yr. d) 5
e) IIE *before 1 March.*

University of Geneva

a) B.A. or B. Sc. degree
b) 3500 Swiss fr., plus tuition
c) 1 academic yr. d) 3
e) IIE, *before 1 March.*

University of Zurich

a) General requirements
b) 2 of 2800 Swiss fr., plus tuition; 5 undesignated
c) 1 academic yr. d) 7
e) IIE, *by 1 March.*

FOR SPECIFIC COUNTRY

Canada

World University Service of Canada

a) B. A. degree or equivalent
b) maintenance, tuition, books, pocket-money, etc.
c) 1 academic year* d) approx. 15
e) World University Service National Committee in U. S.

Denmark

Danish Government

a) B.A. degree; knowledge of Danish desirable
b) D.kr. 4,305 plus transportation from Danish frontier to place of study
c) approx. 8 months d) 3
e) IIE, *by 1 April.*

France

Alliance Francaise of New York

a) age 20-30 b) $1,100
c) 1 year d) 12
e) Chairman, Scholarship Committee Alliance Francaise of New York, 2 E. 52nd St., N. Y. 22, N. Y. *by 31 January.*

French Government

a) under 30
b) 30,000 fr. per month & tuition
c) 1 month to several years
d) about 7,000 monthly remittances
e) I I E, *before 1 February.*

Germany

Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation

a) age 25-35; post-graduate with academic experience in teaching or research.
b) DM 4,000, plus tuition, books, and return transportation from German frontier to university
c) 10 months* d) 185
e) German diplomatic representative in U. S., *early fall.*

German Academic Exchange Service

a) age limit 35; univ. grad.; preference given those without extensive experience abroad.
b) DM 300 per month, tuition, transp.
c) 1 acad. yr. d) 75 e) I I E

Government of the German Federal Republic

a) previous study in U. S. univ.
b) DM 300 per month, plus transportation from German frontier to place of study; tuition free; an additional grant of DM 500 to DM 600 is made at beginning of studies
c) 12 months* d) 174
e) Mission of the German Federal Republic in U. S.

Netherlands

Netherland—American Foundation

a) supplement funds for grads.
b) $200-$1,500
c) 1 acad. yr. d) approx. 20
e) Netherland-American Foundation, 551 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y., *in February and March.*

Netherlands Gov't (3 scholarships)

a) preferably under 28; bach. deg.; knowledge of Dutch lang. desirable
b) Fl. 2,500 plus tuition c) 1 acad. yr.
d) 3 (1 of ea.) e) I I E by *1 March.*

Scandinavia

American-Scandinavian Foundation

a) college ed; age limit 40
b) $450-$2,500 c) 1 acad. yr. d) 8
e) American-Scandinavian Foundation, 127 E. 73rd St., N. Y. 21, N. Y., *by 1 April.*

Switzerland

Swiss-American Society of Cultural Relations

a) under 35; bachelor's degree
b) 2000 Swiss fr. c) 1 acad. yr. d) 1
e) I I E, *before 1 March.*

United Kingdom

British Council

a) age 25-35
b) maint., fees and possibly transp.
c) 3-6 months* d) approx. 200
e) British Council Representative in U. S., *at least 6 mo. before visit.*

British Government

a) age limit 28; univ. degree
b) lb. 550 p.a. plus trans. (married scholar: ext. lb. 200 p.a. plus trans. for family)
c) 2 yrs.* d) 12
e) United Kingdom Consultate—General in New York, New Orleans, Chicago, or San Francisco, *by 1 October.*

University of Manchester

x) theology a) grads.
b) lb. 350 or lb. 400 p.a.
c) 1 yr.* d) 1
e) The Registrar, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester 13, *by 1 July.*

FOR STUDY ANYWHERE

Ford Foundation

x) social sciences and humanities relating to Africa, Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, Asia and the Near East.
a) age under 35; college sen. or grad.
b) varies c) 1-2 yr.* d) approx. 154
e) Ford Foundation, Foreign Area Training Fellowships, 477 Madison Ave., 15th Floor, N. Y. 22, N. Y. *by 1 November.*

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

a) age 30-40; to students who have demonstrated unusual capacity for productive scholarship
b) normally $3,000 c) usually 12 mo.
d) approx. 312
e) Mr. Henry Allen Moe, Sec.-Gen., John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 551 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y., *by 15 October.*

University of Minnesota

x) study of Kierkegaard
a) should know Danish language
b) $500-$1,000 c) 1 yr.*
d) 1 ($500 awards sometimes available for summer work)
e) Professor Paul L. Holmer, Professor of Philosophy Swenson-Kierkegaard Memorial Com. University of Minnesota, 106 Wesbrook Hall, Minneapolis 14, Minn. *by 15 April.*

World Council of Churches

(Scholarships for Germany, Britain, Holland, Scandinavia, France, Italy, and Greece)
a) age under 30; recommendation by applicant's own church; 2 or 3 yrs. of theological training or related study
b) maint., tuition, sometimes travel
c) 1 acad. yr. d) approx. 120
e) Scholarship Committee, DICASR, WCC, 17 Route de Malagnou, Geneva, *by 1 January.*

OTHER AWARDS

The Experiment In International Living

(A summer vacation program in which students live for about one month in a home abroad and travel for another month as a part of a group.)
a) age 16-30 b) $100 to $500
c) 9-11 weeks d) unrestricted
e) Chairman, Admission Committee, The Experiment in International Living, Putney, Vermont, *by 1 March.*

Institute of International Education, 1 E. 67th Street, New York 21, N. Y.

A large number of scholarships donated by universities, cultural societies and governments in many countries and also many donated by private individuals, corporations and foundations. It also reviews applications for many other awards. For information see: *Foreign Study Grants,* published annually in December, no charge; *Summer Study Abroad,* published annually in March, no charge; *Group Study Abroad,* published annually in January, no charge.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY ABROAD

This list of annual awards available to U. S. dents for study abroad includes (1) olarships specifically designated for theo- ical study, (2) scholarships for study in sely related fields, and (3) scholarships for ich the field of study is unrestricted.

The scholarships are listed in the following der: (1) those for specified universities, those for specified countries, (3) those anywhere, (4) miscellaneous awards.

General requisites: (1) language of the untry, (2) high rating of character and demic ability, (3) capacity for independent dy, (4) recipient must return to his own untry on completion of his study.

Explanation of Symbols: (Scholarships are ed under the name of the university, gov- ment, foundation or other organization nsoring the award.)

x) Field of study (if no "x", then unrestricted).
a) Condition or requirements.
b) Value.
c) Duration (* = renewable or extendable).
d) Number available per year.
e) Apply to (IIE = Institute of International Education, 1 E. 67th St., New York 21, N. Y.).

FOR SPECIFIC UNIVERSITY

Canada

iversity of Saskatchewan

a) bachelor's degree
b) $800 or $1,100
c) 8-11 months d) 3
e) Co-ordinator of Research, Saskatchewan Research Council, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, *by 1 February.*

iversity of Toronto, hool of Graduate Studies

a) excellent academic record
b) $500 to $2,000
c) 1 academic yr.* d) approx. 50
e) The Secretary, School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto 5, *by 1 March.*

Ceylon

iversity of Ceyon

x) Buddhist civilization and Pali, Indian philosophy.
a) men under 35; preferably single; B.A. degree.
b) partial maintenance and tuition
c) 1 academic yr. d) 2
e) IIE, *by 15 January.*

iversity of Ceyon

a) University grad. b) Rs. 4800 p.a.
c) 3 years* d) 1
e) The Registrar, Univ. of Ceylon, University Park, Peradeniya, *by June or July.*

Germany

Bonn University

a) age 20 to 35; have completed 3 semesters study at a recognized university.
b) DM.200 to DM.250 per month
c) 2 semesters d) 60
e) Akademisches Auslandsamt der Universitat Bonn, Liebfrauweg 3, Bonn, *by 1 March.*

Erlangen University

a) meet univ. entrance standard
b) DM.250 per month, plus tuition
c) 12 months d) 3
e) Akademisches Auslandsamt der Universitat Erlangen, Schlossplatz 4, Erlangen, *by 31 December.*

Free University of Berlin

a) M.A. degree; recommendation by own university.
b) DM. 250 to DM.500 per month (transp., maintenance and tuition in special cases)
c) 1 semester to 1 yr.* d) 3
e) Aussenkommission der Freien Universitat Berlin, Boltzmannstrasse 4, Berlin-Dahlem.

Goettingen University

a) meet univ. entrance standard
b) (1) approx. DM.150 to 200 per month; (2) tuition fees
c) normally 2 semesters
d) (1) 2 (2) unspecified
e) Akademisches Auslandsamt der Universitat, Papendich 16, Gottingen, *2 months before term begins.*

Kiel University

x) Theology
a) General requirements b) tuition
c) 1 term* d) 15
e) Rektorat, Universitat(Olshausenstiasse 40/160, Kiel.

Japan

Hosei University

a) age over 19 b) tuition
c) 1 year* d) 3
e) Hosei University, No. 1, 3 chome, Fujimicho, Chiyoda-ward, Tokyo, *between 10 February and 31 March.*

Kinki University

a) 12 yrs. gen. ed. in U. S.
b) 20,000 yen per month
c) 4 years d) 20
e) Japanese diplomatic representative in U. S.

United Kingdom

University of Cambridge, Christ's College

a) men; univ. degree; age under 26; work for Ph. D. at Univ. of Cambridge
b) maximum lb. 50
c) 2 academic yrs. d) 1
e) Candidate's own univ., *by 1 May.*

University of Cambridge, Trinity College

a) men under 26; univ. degree but not have done more than 2 yrs. post-graduate work.
b) maximum lb. 465 p.a. plus some fees
c) 3 academic years d) 1 to 3
e) Senior Tutor, Trinity College, Cambridge, *by 1 April.*

University of Cambridge or Oxford (Charles and Julia Henry Fund)

a) bach. deg. within past 5 years; single
b) lb. 700 c) 1 yr. d) 4
e) Office of the Secretary of Yale Univ., New Haven, Conn., *by 15 January.*

University of Durham, St. John's College

x) Theology
a) generally grad. status
b) max. lb. 50 p.a.
c) 1 year* d) unspecified
e) Principal, St. John's College, South Pailey, Durham.

University of Edinburgh

(1) Post-graduate Studentships; (2) Research Grants; (3) Junior and Senior Fellowships.
a) univ. grads.
b) (1) lb. 270 p.a.; (2) varies; (3) lb. 450 or lb. 650 p.a.
c) (1) 1 yr.*; (2) unspecified; (3) 1 yr.*
d) unspecified
e) Matriculation Office, University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, Edinburgh 8.

University of Edinburgh

x) Divinity
a) univ. grads. of not more than 5 yrs. standing
b) lb. 64 c) 1 yr. d) 1
e) University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, Edinburgh 8.

University of Glasgow

x) Classics, Semitic language, philosophy
a) honors degree b) lb. 300 p.a.
c) 2 yrs. d) 4
e) The Registrar, University of Glasgow, W.2, *by 31 March.*

University of London, University College

x) (1) Greek; (2) Hebrew
a) To work on higher degree
b) lb. 55 p.a. c) (1) 2 yrs.
(2) 1 yr. d) (1) 2; (2) 1
e) The Registrar, University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1, *by 15 May.*

Oxford University (The Rodes Trust)

a) age 19 to 25; 2 yrs. residence at a university
b) lb. 600 p.a. c) 2 yrs.* d) 32
e) Courtney Smith, Pres., Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Penn.

WYKER REPORTS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

Rev. Jim D. Wyker is supported through Week of Compassion and on loan by Disciples to the East Pakistan Christian Council. His major responsibility has been to help develop agricultural cooperatives, to introduce new agricultural methods and to be responsible for relief distribution in times of emergency.

Following is a summary of his 1957 report to the East Pakistan Christian Council and to the Brotherhood:

The Problem—Poverty

Economic poverty is the major problem facing the churches of East Pakistan. The task of the East Pakistan Christian Council has been to analyze the causes of this poverty and to promote a plan for its solution. Low production and injustice in the marketplace are the two major factors contributing to this poverty.

Through agricultural development projects and agricultural coops, and through the Government Community Development Program, much has been accomplished in improving farming methods, pest control, sanitation, and housing. Since the government has taken responsibility for increasing production, the East Pakistan Christian Council has been able to concentrate on the problem of marketing injustice.

The villagers are poor because they are exploited when they sell, when they buy, and when they borrow. The money lender may require double or triple the amount of seed which he loans. The ancient methods of trading are inefficient and uneconomical.

Relief

The Council has distributed food from American Christians to the institutionalized, orphans and widows, and to families with low incomes. Usually local pastors and teachers have supervised the distribution in order to be sure that none of the relief was going into blackmarket.

One of the most difficult problems has been that of keeping relief out of the hands of able bodied "relief beggars."

About $3,500 has been received for relief and about $2,300 of it has already been used. But the remainder and much more will soon be needed for drought areas. Relief funds have been assigned for food, draft animals, seed, and emergency housing. A shipment of wheat is also needed to help meet this emergency.

Rehabilitation

Agricultural cooperatives are perhaps the best solution to the economic injustice suppressing the villagers. In this way the villagers are able to retain 100% of their earnings. But successful coops cannot be imposed upon the community, but must be built upon the cooperation of the villagers themselves. Thus the main task for the EPCC has been to educate these illiterate villagers to organize and operate co-ops.

Twelve co-op success stories have been written and printed in both Bengali and English for village study groups, and over 100 pastors and teachers have been trained to lead discussion groups. Also, 25 young adult leaders are registered to attend a 3-week school on organizing and operating co-ops.

The first task is to develop self-confidence in the villagers, and to replace bureaucracy and paternalism with democracy and self-control. Laying the foundation of cooperation is a greater task than organizing cooperatives.

Mass education leadership training, and the practice of saving are rigid standards which every village must meet before it is given help in organizing and financing a co-op. If these standards are met, money is granted for organizing and managing a co-op and money for capital is loaned at a reasonable interest rate. The goal of the Rehabilitation Committee is an independent villager and a self-supporting church.

One of the major problems has been that of literature. Beginners study guides had to be written, and even the advanced literature had to be translated into Bengali and printed. And, most of the available literature had to be rendered to the intellectual and experience level of the villagers.

Leadership has also been a critical problem. However, on-the-job training is gradually producing the needed leaders. The major job now is to prepare nationals to take over complete leadership responsibility.

Hopeful Progress

At the end of this first year the program of rehabilitation is right on time. Nationals and Missionaries are both giving excellent cooperation. There have been no unsurmountable obstacles. Support has been adequate. The Government has been giving utmost assistance. There is adequate evidence that our program is within the providence of God and prayers from around the world are providing the dynamic for this cooperative advancement.

SIKES AND COOK

(*Continued from Page* 1)

versity Place Christian Church, Champaign, Illinois, and Dr. Robert Tobias, Associate Executive Secretary of the Council on Christian Unity and Professor of Ecumenical Theology and History at the School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis, Ind.

These men were appointed by the executive committee of the Council on Christian Unity upon an invitation from the United Church of Christ.

Two small advisory sub-committees will work with the Observers in interpretation among Disciples. Dr. Howard E. Short, Professor of Church History at The College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky; Dr. William Baird, Professor of New Testament at The College of the Bible; and Dr. Ronald E. Osborn, Professor of Church History at the School of Religion, Butler University, will work with Dr. Sikes and Dr. Tobias.

Dr. Hampton Adams, Pastor of Park Avenue Christian Church in New York and past President of the Council on Christian Unity, and Dr. George Walker Buckner, Executive Secretary of the Council on Christian Unity and Editor of *World Call*, will work with Dr. Cook and Rev. Jarman.

Oberlin Follow-Up Books

The Nature of the Unity We Seek

Edited by Paul Minear. The official report of the first North American Faith and Order Conference, held at Oberlin, Ohio, from September 3-10, 1957. The Conference, considered to be one of the most significant ecumenical meetings in recent years, brought together 279 official delegates from 34 churches of the U.S. and 5 churches of Canada. While the Conference did not formulate specific recommendations for Christian unity, great strides were made in understanding doctrinal and confessional problems, the nature and organization of the church, and the cultural factors that influence the mission of the church. ($4.00).

A Guide To Christian Unity

By George L. Hunt. Will enable local study groups to benefit from the creative discussions which took place at the conference and to formulate their own views on the quest for Christian unity, its obstacles and rewards. ($1.00; ready in Spring).

Christian Unity In North America

A Symposium. Edited by J. Robert Nelson. A selection of pre-conference articles on the topic "Christian Unity in North America." The articles represent many different shades of opinion. ($3.00, ready in Spring).

These books are published by The Bethany Press, St. Louis, and will be available from the Christian Board of Publication, Beaumont and Pine Boulevard, St. Louis 3, Missouri.

Rev. Mr. Donald M. Salmon, Minister of the First Christian Church, Seattle, Washington, has been elected by the Board of Directors to replace Dr. John Paul Pack as a Director of the Council on Christian Unity. Dr. Pack has had to resign from the Board of Directors because of his appointment to the Commission on Brotherhood Finance. Members of the Commission may not serve on the boards of any Brotherhood agencies. Rev. Salmon's term will expire in 1960.

U. S. Lutherans To Unite

A timetable for bringing about union between three major Lutheran churches in the United States has been approved by a joint union committee.

The American Lutheran Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church have agreed to unite. A fourth group, the Lutheran Free Church has decided to stay out of merger negotiations. The new body will be called the American Lutheran Church.

Under the suggested timetable, documents for the merger will be completed by February 1, 1958. Articles of incorporation for the church will be filed on January 1, 1960. Final conventions of the uniting bodies will meet from April 20-23, 1960, in Minneapolis. The new church's constituting convention will follow immediately between April 24 and 27. June 5, 1960, Pentecost Sunday, will be set aside in all congregations to mark the union. The new church will begin functioning as an administrative unit on January 1, 1961. Its first general convention will be held in October, 1962. (EPS).

U. S. Methodists

As a result of the First North American Conference on Faith and Order, held at Oberlin, Ohio, in September, a thirty-six-member Commission on Ecumenical Consultation will be set up by the Methodist Church to take part in inter-denominational consultations on Faith and Order. The new commission was authorized by the Council of Bishops at its semi-annual meeting in Gatlinburg in November.

The idea for the commission stemmed from a presentation made in Oberlin, Ohio, in September at the Faith and Order Conference by Methodist Bishop F. Gerald Ensley.

Commission members will be 8 bishops, twelve theology professors, 8 pastors, 6 laymen and 2 representatives of the church's Boards of Mission and Education. (EPS).

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WCC Exec. Comm. Meets

The 12-member Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches ended a five-day meeting in London, England, Feb. 14 with an assurance that the Council's proposed religious liberty study is to be "world-wide" and not restricted to "certain crisis areas."

The study, authorized by the Central Committee of the World Council at its meeting at Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Conn., last summer, called for a study of religious liberty "in Roman Catholic and other countries."

The Executive Committee emphasized that the study is to be a comprehensive analysis of the problem of religious liberty around the world.

The Executive Committee also made arrangements for three World Council representatives, accompanied by interpreters and consultants, to meet with representatives of the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church early in August. The Russian Orthodox Church declined membership in the World Council of Churches when it was formed in 1948 but said then that the decision was "for the present."

World Council officials have expressed the hope that the meeting will result in a "greater understanding of each other's positions" and that "the erroneous conception of the ecumenical movement held by the Russian Orthodox Church in 1948" has changed.

At its London meeting the Exec. Committee also heard the Council's general secretary, Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, characterize relations with the churches in Eastern Germany as "the most difficult problem of the last few months." He cited recent refusals of the East German government to grant visas to churchmen to attend conferences in other countries.

"It is of greatest importance to maintain relations with churches in Eastern Europe but it is getting more and more difficult, because of pressure on the churches," he said citing the displacement of Hungarian Bishop Lajos Ordass as primate of his church.

Other action of the Exec. Comm. included its recommendation that the Third Assembly of the World Council, scheduled for Ceylon in 1960, be delayed for one year in order that churches and national Christian councils have more time to consider details of the WCC-IMC merger proposal.